## NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1896.-FOURTEEN PAGES.

THE BAYARD TESTIMONIAL.

AN INCIDENT IN A PENNY PAPER CIR- THE STATE FAILS TO MAKE OUT A CASE CULATION WAR.

POSITION TO "THE TELEGRAPH'S"

PROPOSITION.

[BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.] London, Dec. 4.—The American Embassy was besieged by representatives of the press to-day, but Mr. Bayard declined to talk with anybody about the project for honoring him with a testi- acquitted to-night. montal of English esteem. What he said was: From other sources outside the Embassy I learn Chronicle's" objection to the plan of "The Telegraph" that a subscription be raised for him, the money to be used to buy old editions of standard American Ambassador. He is much nettled at

Nevertheless, there is some support of "The Chronicle" by official and unofficial Americans here. They are not sorry that some one has spoken out on the subject of rewarding Mr. Bayard by an English subscription for praising English institutions as a sort of sop to him to room?" offset his consure by Congress for assailing American policies and for extolling an American President at the expense of "the unruly Ameri can people"; nor do they relish the scheme to out of his hands negotiations of which the outcome has increased the respect here felt for American manliness and truly American men. They believe that, with the best of motives, Mr. Bayard has oversugared all his discourse,

The reciprocal gratitude of the newspaper deas suggests that Mr. Bayard has been as unfortunate in his culogists in this country as he has been in his defenders at home. Probably by publication and feeling that it is outside the prohibitions of American law on the diplomatic class and inside the proprieties of personal compliment. Meanwhile the Ambassadors of European Governments here are wickedly laughing, but are doing it discreetly in their sleeves There is something not entirely unbearable to them in the awkward figure which the Ameri- | measure can Ambassador cuts in a circulation war between two penny papers. I. N. F.

OFFICIAL OPINION IN WASHINGTON. THE STATE DEPARTMENT TRUSTS TO MR. BAY ARD'S GOOD SENSE TO ACCEPT OR TO REPUSE THE TALKED-OF GIFT.

Washington, Dec. 4.-The proposition of English men acting unofficially to present Ambassador Bayard at the close of his mission with a substan tial recognition of the esteem in which he is held by individuals finds no expression of disapproba the matter could scarcely be a subject plomatic experience will enable him to determine sense of propriety may be relied upon to dispose of the personal aspects of the case however, pointed out that Section 1.751, ent shall "ask or accept, for himself or any other erson, any present, emolument, pecuniary favor, fice or title of any stind, from any such govern-ent." As understood here, there is no suggestion at Mr. Bayard is to receive any distinction from "government." but that the proposed gift will

ernment. But they complete the compound some popular sources, eithstanding the statute quoted, instances seen of constant occurrence when govern have officially tendered decorations are gifts to American officials, and at every seen and the permit have officers and others to accept such tenders. Among the most recent cases were acts of Cougress to enable certain officers to receive decorations from King Kalakaun of Hawaii, which were occasioned by acts of the simplest personal couriesy. Numerous instances are remembered when the wives of American officials have received from sovereigns presents which their husbands could not have accepted. But in the event of a presentation to Mr. Bayard, either during his term as Ambassador or after he returns to private life, of a set of rare books secured through popular subscription, no reasons appear to those in diplomatic circles here why he should not be the sole judge of the course he might consistently pursue. why he should not be the sole he might consistently pursue.

SIR HENRY IRVING SUBSCRIBES. "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH'S" SCHEME MEETS WITH GENERAL APPROVAL ACCORDING

TO THAT JOURNAL London, Dec. 4 .- "The Daily Telegraph" will to morrow publish three columns of interviews and letters on the subject of its proposal to make a present to Ambassador Hayard as a Nationa token of respect and goodwill. The paper says has received fifty more subscriptions to its fund for this purpose, including one from Sir Henry Ir ving, the well-known actor-manager.

EFFECT OF X RAYS ON THE BLIND.

EXPERIMENTS OF A ST. LOUIS PHYSICIAN AND

MR. TESLA'S CRITICISM.

St. Louis, Dec. 4 .- Mr. Heber Roberts, of this city whose experiments with the X rays have attracted considerable attention, has recently directed his ex-periments to benefiting the blind. The results asserted of these experiments called forth adverse

eritleism from Nicola Tesla, which will shortly ap-pear in "The Electrical Review." This criticism was shown to Dr. Robarts yesterday, to which he replied: "Professor Tesla is wrong in stating that I have promised sight to the totally blind. I claim, however, that progress has been made. Interviews have already been printed with me in which I disclaimed the possibility of making practical use of the X ray in the totally blind with our present knowledge. know of no material that will reflect the X ray. The ray must be focussed upon the optic orb if we get conception of forms, but this is not necessary to get the impression of the X ray and the changing influ-

ence created by passing opacities. results may be obtained from the use of the X ray with the nervous and hemorrhagic blind. Long, persistent use alone can tell."

dents from the Missouri School for the Blind came into his office. One of them was George Smith. is about eighteen years old and can see nothing. He a about eighteen years old and can see nothing. He cannot find an electric light in a room. To prove his assertion Dr. Robarts put the boy's face to the fluoroscope and turned on the current. Between the trootes tube and the fluoroscope the little board to which the leaden letters A. B. C were pasted was adjusted. Smith recognized them.

Another student from the Blind School, Louis Smith, was then tried. He can see lights and shadows but cannot make out letters. In a bright electric light he could not read the leaden letters on the board. With the fluoroscope he could read and distinguish them.

"Professor Tesla says you can't see those letters with the X ray any better than without," said the doctor to the boy.

"Professor Tesla does not know," he answered, "I know what I see without the X ray is all a blust."

"All that has been done so far," said Dr. Robarts, "is merely groundwork. If no advance is made from now on, what has been so far developed will be ultirly worthless from a practical standpoint. We must simply keep on working in the hope that future discoveries may utilize and make it of practical value."

THE ROENTGEN RAY AS EVIDENCE. Chicago. Dec. 4.-A dispatch from Denver says.

For the first time in the court history of the county the Röntgen ray was yesterday recognized as an able aid to science and was permitted to appear in testimony as an offset to the statements of physicians who adhere to the old schools and do not con sede the efficacy of the new agency in diagnosing surgical cases. It was in the suit of James Smith gainst br. W. W. Grant, where the plaintiff suct of \$20,000 damages for a false diagnosis of an injury that led to treatment for contuston instead of fracture. By this course the plaintiff was permanently sabled, and appeared in court with the aid of switches."

OF BRIBE-TAKING.

THE AMERICAN AMEASSADOR IS RETICENT-OP- DEST. THE ICE-HARDESTER, REFUSED TO IDEN-

TIFY VACHERON AS THE MAN WHO GOT THE \$2,000 AND THE DEFENCE

Albany, Dec. 4.-Eugene Vacheron, the ex-Assemblyman from the HIId District of Queens County, who was accused of bribe-taking, was

When court opened this morning the I knew nothing about it until I read of it in the examination of Coorge M. Best, the ice harvester newspapers. I have not made up my mind on who paid \$2,000 to an Assemblyman to have the continued. At yesterday's examination Mr. that Mr. Bayard read with resentment "The Best could not identify Vacheron as being the man to whom the money was paid. In reply to on direct examination this morning said that British poets as a Christmas present to the there were others present in Keeler's restaurant besides the man to whom he was introduced. this interruption to the tune of rather cloying | The District-Attorney was trying to prove that the man to whom Best was introduced was

> "Were you introduced to any one else present?" asked the District-Attorney.

> "No sir." "Did you go immediately then to the bar-

"Did the man introduced come into the bar-

"Did you have a conversation with that man

after you reached the barroom?" This was objected to because defendant was not shown to be the man in question, and the

Court sustained the objection was introduced to by ex-Assemblyman Mc Naughton or as the man who went into Keeler's about the time Best said he met the man he was introduced to at the Capitol, but Mr. Cutler said he understood Vacheren was interested in a pure water bill for Suffolk County, which was under consideration in the Legislature, and had left the committee meeting to look after that

Frank B. Harder, president of the Castleton National Bank, gave testimony corroborative of Best's statement about getting from an Albany bank \$2,000, which he placed on a table in a room at Keeler's, and which was taken by the man Best was introduced to.

At the afternoon session John B. Stanchfield, of counsel of Vacheron, said that the defence was content to rest upon the evidence produced by the prosecution and would not call any wit-Mr. Stanchfield then summed up for the defence. He said the prosecution had in no way connected Vacheron with the man to whom charged that the man Best was introduced to at Keeler's had gone to an Albany bank with Best and President Harder, of the Castleton National Bank, to get the \$2,000 check cashed Vacheron was in attendance at the Assembly session, as was shown by rollcalls on the House

session, as was shown by rollcalls on the House records. Again Eest said the man to whom he paid the money had a beard, while Vacheron never wore a beard, as was proved.

District-Attorney Burlingame reviewed the testimony at length and asked the jury to do its duty. The jury then went to supper, and at \$330 o'clock was locked up, but deliberated only ten minutes. When the jury came into court the foreman announced a verdict of ac-quittal. Vacheron was congratulated on all sides, and

he even shook hands with Best, on whom the prosecution had depended to make out a case. Mr. Vacheron's wife and two children listened to the proceedings in court this afternoon.

CRUSHED TO DEATH BY A TROLLEY CAR

A SCHOOLBOY'S SKULL GROUND TO PULP BE NEATH THE WHEELS-JUMPED

FROM A TRUCK. Ten-year-old John Stephens, while on his way from Grammar School No. 61, at One-hundred-and-sixty-ninth-st, and Third-ave., to his home, No. 1.372 Stebbins-ave., at noon yesterday, was run over and instantly killed by a trolley-car of the Union Railway Line. The boy, who was an unusually bright little fellow, left school to walk home with several companions who live near him. They climbel on the tail of a truck which was driving south on Boston-ave, near Jennings-st, and were laughing and joking with each other, when trolley-car No. 2) came swiftly up behind them. The motorman rang the gong, increasing the speed of the car considerably, and all of the boys

except young Stephens jumped off and ran away, "Jump, or we'll leat you home!" they shouted back; but the boy held on until the driver of the truck raised his whip, when, thinking that the man was going to strike him, without looking at the car, he sprang to the ground. At the same time the truckman reined his horses to the right, caus ing the boy to fail on his side directly across the rails. The motorman on the approaching car made a frantic effort to reverse his motor and put on th

a frantic effort to reverse his motor and put on the brakes, but the car swept on, and before he could make one turn the wheels had passed over the prostrate boy and crushed his head to pulp.

Some one ran to Stephens's home and told the boy's mother. She arrived where he hay a few moments afterward, frantic with grief. Her husband, who heard of the accident on his way from work, led his wife home, where kind-hearted neighbors tried to console her.

The motorman and conductor of the car were arrested, but only the former was held when they were taken before Macistrate Denet, in the Morrisanta Police Court. The irnekman, who was to some extent the cause of the accident, escaped, but the police are endeavoring to ascertain his identity.

REDUCTION OF BANK CAPITAL WANTED.

MASSACHUSETTS SAVINGS BANKS SEEK BETTER RETURNS FROM BOSTON NATIONAL BANKS.

Boston, Dec. 4.-An important meeting of Massachusetts savings-bank people was held yesterday to take active steps to secure a reduction in Boston National bank capital. The savings banks of Massa husetis hold stock to the amount of over \$10,000 -600 in Boston National banks, and they are at the head of a movement to secure better returns on their investment by means of reducing the bancapital of Boston.

At the meeting yesterday, at which thirty savings-bank people were present, the following committee was appointed; Henry Parkman, of th Provident Institution for Savings, Boston, chairman; A. H. Evans, of the Boston Five-Cent Sav-ings Bank; P. L. Chase, of the Lynn Institution for Savings; Charles G. Holmes, of the Fall River Five-Cents Savings Bank; E. P. Chapin, of the Worcester Institution for Savings. The committee was authorized to "take such steps as may seem

was authorized to "take such steps as may seem best toward the consolidation, liquidation and reduction of the capital stock of such National banks in the city of Boston as after examination may be deemed desirable." The savings banks are asked to withhold giving proxies to the National banks for the annual meetings until the report of the committee is received.

This movement has been growing for some time, and definite action is now taken, as it is felt that the banks will not be able to continue paying such dividends as the savings-bank people feel they should earn. Any plan proposed will probably be in the nature of a consolidation of three or four small banks into one large bank.

KILLED BY AN ANGRY BULL.

Poughkeepsia, N. Y., Dec. 4.—Oscar Johnsen, a Swele, aged nineteen, of Pawling, went into a lot yesterday to procure a victous bull. The brute, which was recently deharned on account of its untree for protection, but before he reached the safe side the bull was on him and butted him against the tree with such force that he was instantly killed. ruly habits, attacked him. Johnson ran toward

VACHERON IS ACQUITTED. TALK ABOUT BLACK'S STAFF CONGRESSMEN IN CANTON.

NONE OF THE MEMBERS OF IT HAVE YET BEEN SELECTED.

DISPOSED TO TILLINGHAST-MOST OF MOR-

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE ]

Albany, Dec. 4.-Governor-elect Black, with Mrs. Black and William M. Griffith, his private and departed for New-York by the 2:40 train. Mr. Black said he would remain in New-York over night and then proceed to Washington to attend to his duties as Congressman. His special mis sion to Washington will be to pass a bill grant ing a pension to the widow of General Carr. former Secretary of State and a resident of Troy at the time of his death.

Mr. Black while in Washington will complete his first annual message to the Legislature. which will be sent to that body upon its meeting on January 6. The names of the members of the Governor's military staff will be announced from Washington by him.

Up to the present time Mr. Black, it can be stated on the best of authority, has not filled a single place on his staff. Despite rumors to the contrary, he still has under consideration every place on the staff, nor has any place on the staff yet been proffered to any one. Mr. Black undoubtedly has a friendly feeling toward C. W. Tillinghast, fr., of Troy, one of the candidates for Adjutant-General, but Mr. Tillinghast is still without the authority to declare that he has been selected.

There can be little question, however, that Mr. Black intends to appoint William M. Griffith as

general opinion here in Albany is that most of the members of Governor Morton's staff will be reappointed by Mr. Black. Mr. Morton's staff is made up as follows: Major-General Ed McAlpin, Adjutant-General; Brigadier-General Frederick C. McLewee, Inspector-General: Brigadier-General Benjamin Flagler, Com cate-General: Brigadier-General M. O. Terry. Surgeon-General; Brigadier-General Edmund Hayes, Chief of Engineers; Brigadier-General Howard Carroll, Chief of Artillery; Brigadier-General; Brigadier-General James M. Varnum, Paymaster-General; Brigadier-General Henry T military secretary; Colonel Archibald Rogers, Colonel Charles F. James, Colonel John Jacob Astor, Colonel George W. Turner, Colonel George B. Agnew and Colonel Herbert L. Satterlee

Governor-elect Black, accompanied by his wife and his private secretary. Mr. Griffith, arrived in West Seventy-fourth-st., whose guests Mr. and well-known law firm of Tracy, Hoardman & Platt, No. 35 Wall-st. Mr. Black and his wife accepted

deserted look long before the itsual hour.

It was understood last evening that the Godernor-elect's plans were that he would be at the Fifth Avenue Hotel bright and carly this morning ready to hear whatever suggestions his Republica, friends may have to offer regarding offices at his disposal. State or National legislation, and any other questions it is desired to discuss with him Mr. Black proposes to remain here until to-mor, row evening, when he and his wife and secretary will leave here for Washington, where the Governor-elect will occupy his seat in Congress on Monday and continue to discharge his duties as a legislator until a few days before the time for his inauguration at Albany.

At the hotel hast evening there were Congressmen James S. Sherman, of Utica, and W. B. Hooker, of Fredonia, Senator Frank Higgins, of Allegany; Charles W. Hackett, Edward Lauterbach, State Superintendent F. D. Kilburn, of the Banking Department, ex-Assemblyman Philip Keek, of Fulton and Hamilton, who is a candidate for the Board of Chaims; General F. C. McLowe, who is a prominent candidate for Adjutant-General; State Superintendent George W. Markidge, of he Public Works; Senator John Baines, Howard White, of "The Syracuse Standard"; ex-Senator, Shoat Fassett, L. F. Payn, General C. H. Grossenor, of Onlio, and Senator George Fr she Hoat, Marking of Troy, would positively

of Massachusetts.

A rumor prevailed last evening that C W. Tillinghast, of Troy, would positively prove to be Mr. Black's choice for Adjutant-General. General McAlpin came down part of the way from Albany on the same train with the Governor-elect. Late last evening some of the General's friends said that Tillinghast was the man. It was not believed, however, that any appointments of consequence would be officially announced while Mr. Black is in New-York.

KILLED BY A RUNAWAY TEAM.

A HORRIBLE ACCIDENT IN KEYPORT LAST NIGHT.

Matawan, Dec. 4 (Special).-A fatal runaway accl dent occurred in Main-st., Keyport, at 6 o'clock this

hitched a pair of spirited horses, was driven to the Central Railroad station. The driver alighted from the wagon and left the team standing outside. The suddenly became frightened and dashed around the corner into Main-st. The animals had just got under full speed when Charles Stryker, who was driving an accommodation omnibus toward the station, turned into Main-st., immediately in the the station, turned into Main-St., immediately in the path of the runaway. The runaway horses dashed into the stage and the pole of the delivery wagon struck Stryker and passed nearly through his body, killing him instantly. The roof of the stage was carried away by the tongue of the delivery wagon, and all the horses were hadly out and bruised. Stryker was twenty-five years old, and single.

FRAUD AMONG BOSTON BRYANITES.

ONE OF THEIR CANDIDATES FOUND IT OUT, AND THE CITY TICKET WENT TO PIECES.

Boston, Dec. 4.-The hearing before the Election Commissioners on the protest against permitting the names of Messrs, Knox, E. P. Barry, Piller, Plummer and Ryan, "Democratic-Bryan-Citizens' candidates for Aldermen, to appear on the official hallot to be used at the municipal election, and also against the name of H. A. Blanker, candidate for Street Commissioner, nominated by the same people, was resumed at the City Hall this forenoon. sensation was created by J. B. Moran, counsel for Mr. Barry, who announced that he and his client were satisfied that fraud had been committed in connection with the filing of the acmination papers Mr. Moran further said it was evident that forgery had been committed in procuring names. He declared that Mr. Barry would have nothing further to de with the matter, and withdrew his name.

Counsel for some of the other candilates declared that their clients had no knowledge of irregular proceedings in connection with the nomination papers, but in view of the condition of affairs, they had no desire to have their names remain on the hallot, and all the names were withdrawn. The decision of the Commissioners is that the names cannot go upon the official ballot, "for the reason contained in the first objection, namely, "because said nomination papers do not comply with the requirements of the law." Mr. Moran further said it was evident that forgery

THE 12 O'CLOCK noon train for Boston has been discontinued. The time of the 11 a m, has been quickened, due Boston 4:40 p, m. 5 hours and 40 minutes.—(Advt.

MANY MEMBERS OF THE LOWER HOUSE CALL ON MAJOR M'KINLEY.

[DY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

GER FOR THE CABINET-THE PRESIDENT-ELECT'S ESCORT TO WASHINGTON

Canton, Ohio, Dec. 4.-Eastbound trains are bringing many visitors to Canton these days, and eastbound trains are taking most of them good many members of Congress at Major Mc-Kinley's home to-day, and he talked with them all. In addition to his Congressional visitors he had calls from a party of Michigan men and which is to escort the President-elect to Wash-The Michigan delegation, which was composed car early this afternoon. Among those who composed the party were President Angell, of the University of Michigan; Colonel Hecker, of Detroit; ex-Congressmen Brewer and Cutcheon; Colonel A. T. Bliss, of Saglnaw; President Babcock, of the Michigan Club; T. J. O'Brien, of Grand Rapids; Colonel George M. Hopkins, of Saginaw; Colonel H. M. Duffield, of Detroit; General J. S. Kidd, of Iona; ex-Secman George A. Spaulding, of Monroe

Major McKinley received his Michigan visitors in his library, and M. S. Brewer, who was the spokesman, stated the object of their visit. sentative capacity it wanted to suggest to the President-elect for consideration as a Cabinet officer General Alger, of Michigan. Afterward a member of the delegation said:

"We all know and like General Alger. He is one of our foremost citizens and has been active in the development of the State. feel that in his selection for a Cabinet pos the State would be highly honored. As Re feel that in his section, the State would be highly honored. As Republicans we think we may properly ask for recognition. No State made a better showing of handsomer gains than Michigan, and in no State were the odds against the party stronger at the outset. To this victory no man contributed more than General Alger. He has been such bearing a big part of the in the front rank bearing a big part of the burden of our political battles for years. Gen-eral Alger is a man of capacity. He is one of the most successful business men in the counmost successful business men in the cand he is broad minded and patriotic. think Major McKinley will give gra tion to the name of General Alger

Representative John A. T. Hull, of Des Moines, lowa, chairman of the House Committee on with Major McKinley. With him were Lafayette Young, Editor of "The Iowa Capital," and G. M. Reynolds, a Des Moines banker. Young said: "The result of the election in Iowa was highly gratifying. Our State cannot be classed with those wherein Populism flourished and prevailed. Iowa is Republican to the core, and it will never fall the party in a great emer-

The people of Iowa have great pride in Senator Allison, and it is both proper and natural they should have. He has served us and the country long and well, and we have just emphasized our confidence in him by re-electing him to the Senate for six years. He is talked of for the Cabor Secretary of the Treasury, and he may round out his career by filling one of these places. The Iowa people would not like to lose him from the Senate, but in the matter of the Cabinet, if he is called upon to decide, we want him to do just what seems best to him."

mained at Major McKinley's overnight on account of a cold, was well enough to travel with safety to-day, and took the 2 o'clock train this afternoon for Washington, Mr. Dingley said the prospect for revenue legislation this winter was not good, and remarked that sentiment in favor of an extra session of Congress to revise the tariff seemed to be growing daily.

Charles Dawes, of Chicago, who has been talked of in the newspapers in connection with the office of private secretary, arrived in Canton this afternoon and spent several hours at Major McKinley's. Mr. Dawes said that all he knew about his alleged appointment as private secre-tary was what he had seen in the papers.

The officers of the 8th Regiment called on Major McKinley this afternoon. They were in uniform, and a photographer who accompanied them made a picture of them grouped on and in front of Major McKinley's porch. The President-elect was urged to join the group of officers of his escort, and his picture was taken with theirs. The officers at their meeting decided to have the regiment assemble in Canton on the morning of the day Major McKinley starts for Akron, and the regiment will go on his train, Troop A of Cleveland will also come to Canton and go with the regiment. The soldlers will have special Pullman trains and will live in their cars while in Washington. The return trip will be made March 5 or 6, the date not having been definitely fixed.

Among other callers to-day were Charles H. Dodd, of Portland, Ore., chairman of the Repub lican State Committee; Representative R. W. Taylor, Homer Laughlin and Congressman F. B. De Witt, of Ohio; Congressman S. M. Stephen-son, of Michigan, and L. M. Grave, of Michigan.

A TALK WITH MR. HANNA. HE JOKINGLY SAYS THE AGRICULTURAL PORT-FOLIO IS ALL HE WANTS-MR. DING-

LEY WITH HIM. Pittsburg, Dec. 4.-M. A. Hanna passed through Pittsburg to-night, on his way to Washington to make arrangements for the McKinley inaugural ceremonies. On the same car that carried him East was Congressman Dingley. He was also bound for Washington, after having had a consultation with the President-elect at Canton re-

garding his tariff measure. "Yes, I have been mentioned for a place in the Cabinet," said Mr. Hanna. "In fact, I have made all the rounds, with one exception. My friends have used my name in connection with every De-partment but the Department of Agriculture, and that is the only one I want"-this with a laugh. He would not discuss the Cabinet possibilities He would not discuss the Cabinet possibilities further than to say that the men who would filt them would be eminently fitted for the work.

Congressman Dingley was not certain what was going to become of his tariff measure. He said he would still use every effort to have the Senate pass it, but he talked as if he was uncertain of his success. His visit to Canton was to confer with Major McKinley to see if it would be advisable to depend on the present Congress to pass the bill or to bring forth a new measure with more protection. He intimated that if the Dingley bill fails there is a possibility of an extra session being called to consider a new measure to be built on Major McKinley's ideas of the tariff.

GOV. BRADLEY ON HIS WAY TO CANTON. Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 4.-Governor Brailey left yesterday for New-York by way of Canton. It is be-

CANDIDATE OF THE FRUIT-GROWERS. Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 4.—The State Fruit-Grow-ers' Convention yesterday adopted a resolution in-dorsing their president. Elward Cooper, of Santa Barbara, for the Cabinet position of Secretary of

NOT GOING TO CANTON, SAYS MR. PLATT. T. C. Platt was asked last evening whether it was true, as has been rumored, that he was about to start for Canton to see President-elect McKinley. "I have no intention at present of going to Canton or elsewhere outside of New-York. I have received

no specific invitation to visit Mr. McKinley and shall not do so without one. Reports that I am arranging to go West this week or next week, and that I may be deflected from my course by the magnetism that draws so many people to Canton, have no foundation in fact.

THINKS AN EXTRA SESSION CERTAIN. Detroit, Dec. 4 .- F. N. Dingley, Editor of "The Kalamazoo Telegraph," was in the city to-day on his return from Canton, Ohio, where he lunched with President-elect McKinley. Mr. Dingley said in

My impression is that the President-elect has not, up to date, settled upon a single member of his Cabinet. Mr. McKinley feels the grave respon-sibilities of the situation, and is seeking advice from leading members of Congress It can be stated almost positively that an extra session of Congress will be called soon after March 4."

FEARED A BUILDING'S FALL.

TRAFFIC BLOCKED IN BLEECKER-ST., AND POLICE CALLED OUT OVER AN UNWARRANTED TALE.

People living in the neighborhood of Bleecker-st, and Broadway have recently declared that the four-story building at Nov 110 Bleecker-st. is unsafe. Workmen for several months have been dig ging the foundations for a sky-scraper on the west side of the building, and it has seemed to the ople who watched them that its top had begun

Messrs. Friedhoff and Mass, who keep a entoon in the building adjoining No. 119, heard the rumor of the building's unsafe condition about 7 o'cloc! last night, and went out to look at it. They were ofned by William Seigel, who keeps a restaurant n the basement of No. 110; then by L. Salzberg, furrier, who has a shop on the top floor, and gradually other people gathered round them. The growd of curious persons grew to such dimension street, and the streetears had great difficulty in getting through. Some of the people believed that the building was about to fall, and waited for over an hour for this to happen. Two waitresses who sleep in the house were so frightened by talk of its unsafe condition that they refused to spend the night in it, and packed up their belong-

The employes of the furrier on leaving the house to go home joined and swelled the gathering, and said that they were glad to be out of the place. At last a few newcomers cried out that there was a fire, and one man was with difficulty prevented in time from sending in an alarm. Everybody in the dim light was sure that he could see the building bulging out. The excitement increased until a squad of police

men arrived from the Mercer-st, station to invesmen arrived from the Mercer-st, station to investigate the matter and to keep the crowd in order. Firemen sent by the Fire Department also appeared So far as could be learned there was nothing beyord the fancies of the people to warrant their fears, but it was several hours before the crowd finally disappeared altogether. To guard against any possibility of danger, the Mercer-st, police sent word to the Building and Fire departments of the alarm in the neighborhood, and an investigation will be made to-day. All last night policemen watched the building, ready to report at once any signs of its giving way, but there were none.

CABLE-CARS IN A CRASH.

ONE OF THEM RUSHES BACKWARD DOWN A HILL, CRASHING INTO TWO OTHERS. cable-cars crashed together last evening on the steep hill between One-hundred-and-second-st. and One-hundred-and-third-st., on the Lexingtonre, line, and only good fortune averted a catas

ple, started up the hill about 8:29 o'clock last evening in charge of James McGrath. man. The incline is so steep that only one car is allowed upon it at one time. The car was half-way up when the grip slipped, and it started down the hill backward. McGrath and Brown, the conductor, threw themselves upon the brakes, but only succeeded in checking somewhat the speed of the car. Car. No. 355 was at the foot of the hill awaiting its turn to go up. Christopher Schroeder was its gripman. Behind it was car No. 417. Both

were filled with passengers. low and men and women began to crowd toward low and men and women began to crowd toward the rear platforms. There was a crowd on the steps of each when the descending car crashed into No. 255 and sent it back against No. 417.

The collision of the two front cars smashed the rear platform of car No. 290, but no other damage was done. The passengers in the front car were thrown off their seats, and Policeman John Coady, of the East One-hundred-and-fourth-st, station, who was standing near, helped a dozen women out of the three cars. No one was seriously injured. Traffic was blocked on the road for half an hour while the cars were being removed from the tracks.

HER TRESSES STOLEN.

AN UNKNOWN MISCREART CUTS OFF A GIRL'S HAIR IN AN ELEVATED TRAIN.

Until yesterday morning Miss Irene Bray, the sixteen-year-old daughter of John Bray, an elevator man in the Postoffice Building, were her hair heavy braid. Against her will, and incidentally vithout her knowledge, she was deprived of her tresses by an unknown miscreant, who sat next to her is a train on the Third Avenue Elevated Rall-

Miss Bray lives at No. 165 East One-hundred-andthird-st, and is employed as a saleswoman in a drygoods store in Fifty-ninth-st. When she boardtrain yesterday morning the car crowded, but a young man gave her a seat. In the adjoining seat there was a roughly clad man about there years old. This man stared at Miss Bray so hard that she eventually turned her back on him. When she arrived at the place where she is employed her companions made fun of her appearance ployed her companions made fun of her appearance and jestingly inquired who had combed her hair. Not until then did she learn that about eight inches of her brailed hair had been cut off, apparently with a duil knife.

The girl and her parents are deeply mystified over the or urrence, as the family has, so far as is known, no enemies, and the miscreant did not take enough of her hair to make it worth his while in trying to sell it.

TALE OF A BROADWAY BOMB.

LEFT BY A PERSON WHO SKIPPED WITH A RING FROM AN ENTERPRISING STORE.

A salesman employed by a storekeeper who re cently opened a place in upper Broadway for the purchase and sale of pawn tickets for jewelry, and who exhibits a number of showy watches and trinkets and a real-looking one-thousand-dollar bill in the window there, rushed into the West Thirtiethst, police station last night. Producing from his pocket a small green box wrapped in brown paper, he tremblingly declared that it was a bomb, and that an attempt had been made to blow up his employer's store. According to the tale he told, a heavily built man of indefinite description had entered the store a short time previously and asked to see some diamond rings. While examining u valuable specimen, he had produced the bomb from his pocket and, lighting the fuse from his cigar, had placed the bomb on the ground, and had then bolted with the ring, while the salesman stopped to extinguish the fuse. The alleged bomb, when examined, proved to consist of a small piece of steam pipe, containing a few grains of gunpowder and some nails, the whole being placed in the green and some nalls, the whole being placed in the green box. The thing could by no possibility have harmed any one. The police retained the "bomb." They said with a smile, when asked if they were looking for the thief, that they had not much hope of finding him. A cigar dealer who occupies a part of the store and was in it all the evening noticed no excitement in the place and knew nothing of the attempted outrage.

THE CURRENCY REFORM CONVENTION.

JANUARY 12, 1897, THE DAY OF THE MEETING-WHO WILL COMPOSE THE DELEGATES.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 4.—The Executive Committee in charge of the arrangements for the Currency Reform Convention to-day issued a call naming January 12 for the meeting. The convention is to be composed of representative men chosen from the Boards of Trade, Chambers of Commerce, commercial clubs or other similar commercial bodies in cities of \$500 or more inhabitants, according to the census of 1850.

"The basis of representation to be as tabulated and in accordance with the population of said cities, for the purpose of considering and suggesting such legislation as may in their judgment be necessary to place the currency system of the country upon a sound and permanent basis." Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 4.—The Executive Com

A FLOOD IN FIFTH AVENUE.

BLASTING AT FIFTIETH-ST. SHATTERS A WATER MAIN.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

THE CELLAR OF THE DEMOCRATIC CLUB DELUGED AND BOTTLES OF OLD WINE TOSSED ABOUT

-DAMAGE TO THE AMOUNT OF THOU-SANDS OF DOLLARS DONE IN THE

BUCKINGHAM AND NEIGH-

BORING HOUSES. A miniature geyser, throwing a stream fully two feet in diameter into the air, and flooding

vicinity of Fiftleth-st, and Fifth-ave., was the novel sight that attracted the attention of hundreds of pedestrians in the city's fashionable thoroughfare vesterday atternoon. The unusual spectacle was the result of the touching-off of heavy charge of dynamite by workmen who were engaged in blasting rock between Fortynirth and Fiftieth sts., where water mains are being laid along the avenue. The concussion caused by the extra heavy blast burst a thirtyinch main, and in another minute the water was rushing into the pipes which are not yet ready for use. It flowed through them down to Fortyfifth-st., where there is a blow-off, forcing the cover, and bursting into the air to a height of four feet, while at the place of the original break the water foamed over the sidewalks, and deluged the basements and cellars of some of the most palatial residences in the avenue

WHERE THE BREAK OCCURRED.

The break occurred in that part of Fifth-ave which is in the worst condition, the street being impassable. Cunningham, the contractor who laid the sewer-pipes, had fust tilled in the excavation when Matthew Baird, who recently secured contracts for putting in the water main. began digging up the block for his new fortyinch main. Baird's men yesterday morning came across a huge bowlder in front of the Democratic Club house, and about ten feet below main, and, to expedite their work, determined to blast. A charge of dynamite was made ready and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon it was set off

The explosion was a loud one and an instant afterward the water began to flow up into the trench at a rapid rate, flooding the avenue from Fiftieth-st. down to Forty-fifth-st. The clay, made soft by its recent relaying, mingled with the Democratic Club by a coalhole, which let more of the water into the cellar of the club than found its way into adjoining cellars. In half ar hour the water was up to the flooring of the main story. It flowed over the threshold of the cellar door and at one time & looked as if it would get into the parlors of the It went down a little, and at 7 o'clock was six feet deep

BOTTLES OF WINE AFLOAT.

The cellar contains the entire valuable stock of wines of the club, and as the water rose higher and higher the bottles and demijohns ges to various parts of the cellar. In their journeys they many times encountered one another, the meeting often resulting in the destruction of both foaters and simost invariably of at least one. Bottles of port met bottles of Burgundy, crashed against each other, and

mingled with croton. Two of the hallboys divested themselves of part of their clothing and waded into the bath to save what wine they could. They worked at catching floating bottles for about fifteen minutes, by which time the water was above their waists, and they were compelled to stop. They managed to save about a third of the stock in

this way. The electric plant of the club is in the cellar, with the engines for working it, and these were rendered useless by the flood. The electric lights turned on throughout the house went out all at once and the dozen members who were in the building, hearing the hissing of the steam, rushed downstairs in consternation. A few gas jets were lighted, but these too went out, the

meter in the cellar being affected by the water. In the excitement the gas jets were left turned on, and with the sewer gas from the street caused so great an accumulation of gas that a match could not be struck in many of the rooms for fear of an explosion. Members were compelled to

seek quarters elsewhere last night. THE BUCKINGHAM FLOODED.

In the Hotel Buckingham the water flowed into the basement so rapidly that that part of the house had three feet of water in it in half an hour. All the rooms in the basement were damaged by the water. The entire force of help in the house, consisting of nearly 150 persons, was set at work to get rid of the water. All sorts of pumps d receptacles were used. In other houses the osses consisted chiefly of foods and

W. G. Bull, engineer in charge of the work, W. G. Bull, engineer in charge of the work, communicated with the engineers of the reservoir in Central Park as soon as the break occurred. It took some time to get word to them, and when they were informed, the Central Park engineer refused to stop the flow of water in any of the mains, except by order of the Chief Engineer of the Department of Public Works, George W. Birdsall. After two hours' work, Mr. Birdsall was communicated with, and the discovery was made that it was the 30-inch main which had burst, and Engineer Birdsall sent word to have the flow stopped.

other perishable goods.

THE PIPE CRACKED ALL THE WAY AROUND The pipe that burst was cracked almost in the middle and all the way around. It was made of cast iron. This main runs from the reservoir to the lower part of the city without an interven-

to the lower part of the city without an intervening outlet. It supplies the lower part of the city, but the residents will not suffer any loss of water, as the six-inch and the twenty-inch mains in Fifth-ave, also feed that part of the city.

Some of the members of the Democratic Clubduring the evening expressed the belief that either Mr. Baird or the city would be sued by the club for its loss. It is said that some of the others who incurred losses will also bring suits for damages.

The losses caused by the flood have not been fully estimated by the property-owners, but the following are their present approximate estimates: Democratic Club, No. 617 Fifth-ave., \$3,000; E. H. Nichols, No. 620 Fifth-ave., \$1,000; M. E. Garrison, No. 618 Fifth-ave., \$1,000; Buckingham Hotel, No. 621 Fifth-ave., \$2,000; the George Kemp estate, Nos. 611 to 615 Fifth-ave., including the Belgravia apartment-house, \$1,000; General Daniel Butterfield, No. 616 Fifth-ave., \$500; General Davis, No. 610 Fifth-ave., \$500; General Davis, No. 610 Fifth-ave., \$500; General Davis, No. 610 Fifth-ave., \$500. The cellar of William Ziegler, formerly of Brooklyn, now of No. 624 Fifth-ave., also suffered considerable damage.

NO MORE FRUIT FROM SICILY.

THE PRICES ARE SO LOW HERE THAT EVERY SHIPMENT IS A LOSS TO THE SHIPPERS.

Boston, Dec. 4.-A private cable dispatch received by a prominent fruit importer of this city to-day from Sicily says that the work of packing fruit for shipment to America has been suspended. It is under-stood that this is owing to the low prices received for the fruit in this country, which makes every shipment a loss to the shippers.

HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR MEN. Our own productions and those of the world's best makers at Strictly Moderate Prices. Smoking jackets and robes in exclusive designs. Selections made now can be exchanged after the holidays, it desired. GEORGE G. BENJAMIN, BROADWAY, COR. 26TH ST.—(Advt.